and severe forms, has proved ineffectual, and it remains an unsolved problem how to stop fornication and prevent prostitution. We are unable to understand why those who have not yet been able to solve this problem or to assist in its solution, should violently oppose the efforts made to lessen the physical evils resulting from the practice, which no one has yet been able to check.

The subject has also been under serious discussion at the recent International Statistical Congress, held in St. Petersburg. With regard to the advisability of such legislation there was an entire unanimity of opinion; and it is interesting to know the actual text of the principal conclusion arrived at by a strictly scientific body, in which every civilized nationality was represented. It is as follows:

" The Congress recognizes the great importance of a serious study of prostitution, and insists upon the necessity of establishing in all large towns a sanitary control, which shall at the same time keep special registers concerning the persons addicted to prostitution."

Much has been said of the experiment tried in St. Louis to place the prostitutes under medico-legal supervision. Contradictory reports have been circulated, some unfavorable ones, in the medical journals above alluded to. We have not felt inclined to accept such premature and biased judgments, but have waited until an official statement reached us after a fair trial of the plan. Such we now have.

We may explain that the principles of the St. Louis system are compulsory registration, location in prescribed districts, physical and sanitary weekly examinations, taxing the class for the expense of hospital and sanitary care, and police protection to those complying with rules, and the establishment of a hospital and house of industry for the exclusive care, medical treatment and industrial employment of the class. For the support and maintenance of the institution, for the payment of its debts, the advancement of its interests and the humane and reformatory objects contem-